REMARKS

The Official Action dated October 20, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the following response is presented thereto. The present application currently contains claims 1-9, 13-15, 17 and 18. Claims 1-9, 13-15, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,262,741 issued to Davies in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,966,135 issued to Roy et al.

Referring to claim 1, Davies was cited as disclosing a method of gathering data from a database, comprising:

storing within a database table, objects containing image data, said database table comprising at least one row including objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database (Figure 7B-1);

receiving, in a server system, objects extracted from at least one row of said database table in response to a first request received from a client system, the objects corresponding to one or more layers (col. 7, lines 30-40; col. 11, line 50 - col. 12, line 55);

displaying said representation of the image data in the client system (col. 14, lines 35-40);

generating a second request for at least one additional layer of image data in response to a selection at said client system of an element of the displayed representation of the image data (element 628 of Fig. 10; col. 14, lines 58-60);

receiving, in a server system, additional objects extracted from at least one additional row of said database table in response to a first request received from a client system, the objects corresponding to one or more layers (col. 11, line 50 - col. 12, line 55); and

displaying said updated representation of the image data in the client system (col. 14, lines35-40; Figs. 6a-6f).

Roy et al was cited as disclosing combining received image data into a single file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system (col. 4, lines 55-65; col. 5, lines 10-20).

Referring to claim 13, Davies was cited as disclosing a system comprising: a database including a database table, said database table comprising at least one row including objects containing geospatial data, said objects having multiple data types, each data type being stored within a different column within said database table (Figure 7B-1);

an interface to said database system (element 322 of Figure 8); an interface to said client system (element 342 of Figure 8);

a controller adapted to receive a first request from the client system, and in response to said first request: receive objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system (col. 11, line 50 - col. 12, line 55);

means for displaying said visual representation of the image data in the client system (element 112 of Figure 8); and

said controller further adapted to receive a second request from the client system generate in response to a selection at said client system of an element of the displayed representation of the image data in the client system, and in response to said second request, receive additional objects containing geospatial data extracted from the database system (col. 11, line 50 - col. 12, line 55).

Roy et al was cited as disclosing combining data into a single file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system (col. 4, lines 55-65; col. 5, lines 10-20).

In their current form, independent claims 1 and 13 clearly indicate that: (1) in the server system and in response to a first request from the client, objects are extracted from at least one row of said database table, and the objects are combined to create a first file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system; and (2) in the server system and in response to a second request from the client, additional objects are extracted from the database table, and the additional objects are combined to create a second file containing a representation of the image data for communication to the client system.

The present Official Action acknowledges that Davies is silent regarding combining objects into a single file containing a representation of the image data for communication to a client system. Although Roy et al. discloses a map author which is used to create, modify and electronically publish map windows files (.mwf files), it is not seen that objects are extracted from the database and combined to create a first file containing a representation of the image data in a server system in response to a first request from the client system, and thereafter additional objects are extracted from the database and combined to create a second file containing a representation of the image data in the server system in response to a second request from the client system.

As neither Davies nor Roy et al. disclose combining objects to create a first file containing a representation of the image data in a server system in response to a first request from the client system, and thereafter combining additional objects to create a second file containing a representation of the image data in the server system in response to a second request from the client system, it is believed that inventions recited in claims 1 and 13 are not taught by the cited references.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 13, as well as claims 2 through 9 which depend from claim 1, and claims 14, 15, 17 and 18 which depend from claim 13 are believed to

be patentable over the cited references to Chang et al. and Roy et al., taken singularly or in combination.

Review of the present application and claims with consideration of the foregoing comments, and reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-9, 13-15, 17 and 18, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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